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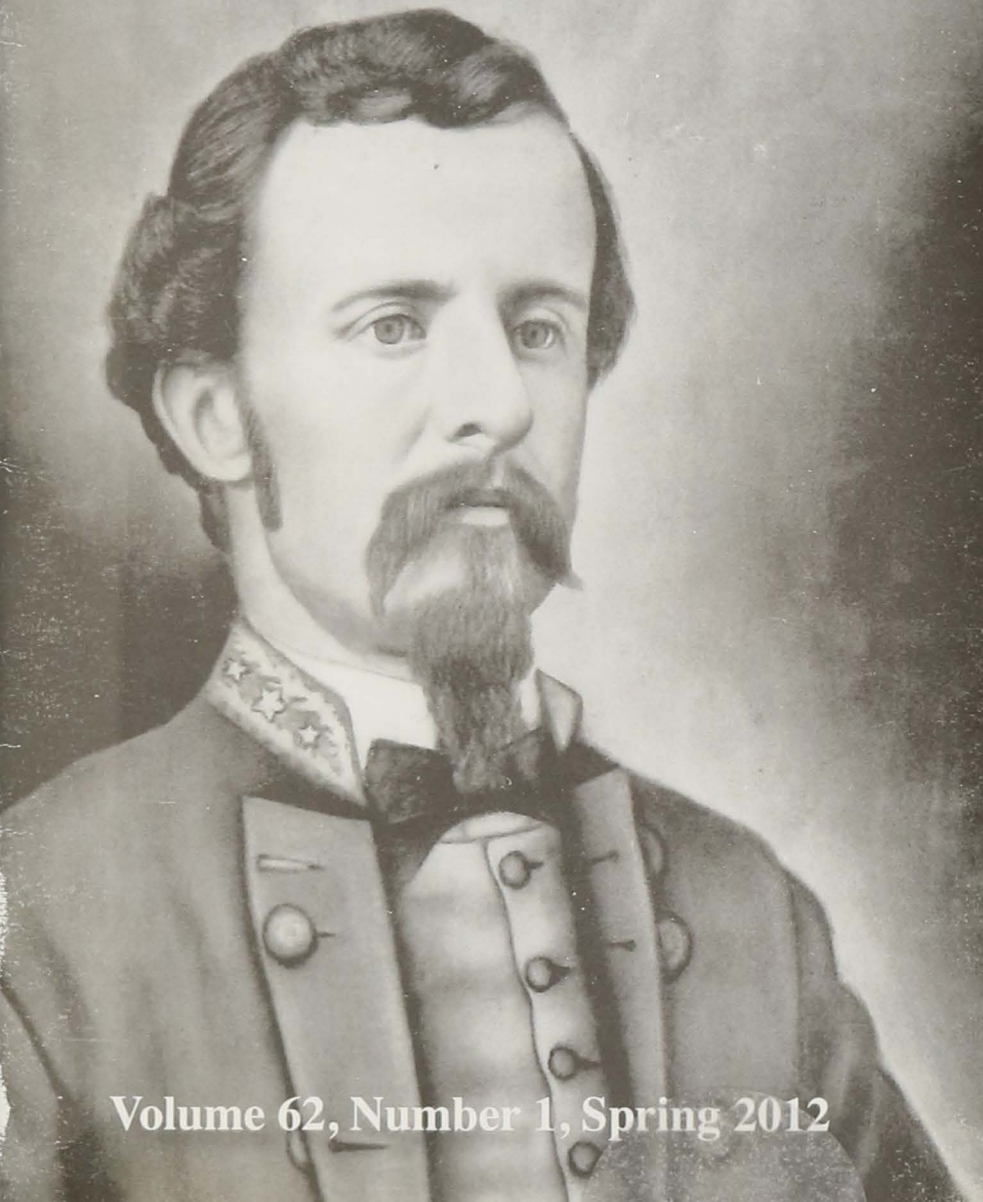

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FLASHBACK

Journal of the Washington County Historical Society
Preserving the Past for the Future

Volume 62 Spring 2012 Number 1

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Courtesy of Diane Metzger

On the cover: An artist's depiction of Erasmus I. "Ras" Stirman helped the Washington County Historical Society confirm which photograph in William Campbell's *One Hundred Years of Fayetteville: 1828-1928* was Stirman, who served as a colonel in the Confederate Army and was elected mayor of Fayetteville in 1869. See more on Page 46 and 47.

Ferdinand Zellner: Fayetteville's First Composer

By Charlie Alison

The violinist and composer Ferdinand Frederick Zellner lived in Fayetteville for a little more than a decade and wrote a piece of music, the "Fayetteville Polka," believed to be the first Arkansas composition to be published as sheet music.

Zellner was born in August 1831 at Berlin, Germany, then part of the Prussian empire. His brother Willhelm Emil Zellner was born two years later, also in Berlin. In at least one census record, Ferdinand Zellner reported not knowing the names of his parents. According to family lore, though, the brothers came to America together, in part to avoid military conscription into the Prussian army.

However, Ferdinand Zellner also came to the United States in 1850 for vocational reasons, as a violinist with the orchestra that performed and toured the country with the Swedish nightingale, Jenny Lind, herself brought to America by the great impresario, P.T. Barnum. Lind was born and reared in Sweden, but trained mostly in France and Germany, learning opera and becoming one of Europe's best-known singers. Barnum had never heard her sing, but he had heard about the size of her audiences. He proposed a contract that would bring her to America for a set number of performances.

Other similar offers had been made to Lind, but the terms of Barnum's contract were less demanding and more lucrative to Lind, who wanted to raise money to create a musical academy for girls in Stockholm, Sweden. Despite Barnum's reputation as a showman who occasionally traded on the public's gullibility, Lind accepted the contract and came to America, arriving at New York City aboard the steamer Atlantic on September 1,

1850. Waiting for her and her orchestra was a crowd of more than 30,000 people, spread along the docks of the New York harbor.

The company performed in New York City, Boston and Philadelphia before touring the southern seaboard and Cuba. The entourage then traveled across the Gulf of Mexico to New Orleans, where the company performed 12 concerts.

Leaving New Orleans on March 10 aboard the steamer Magnolia, Lind and her company of musicians traveled up the Mississippi River to perform at Natchez on March 12. The troupe stopped briefly in Memphis on March 14 for a midday concert and then reboarded the Magnolia to continue up the Mississippi to St. Louis for several concerts. Eventually, they made their way up the Ohio River, returning to New York.[1]

When Lind returned to Europe later in the year, Zellner stayed. The factors that affected Zellner's decision to come to Arkansas when Lind returned to Europe are unknown. Perhaps he liked the view of eastern Arkansas on his trip up the Mississippi River. Perhaps an entourage of Fayetteville residents went to Natchez, Memphis or St. Louis to see one of Lind's concerts, met Zellner by happenstance and persuaded him to come to Fayetteville. Perhaps, like many emigrants to the Americas, he simply moved west in search of a new start. Regardless, he moved to Fayetteville by 1852 and filed papers in Washington County that year showing his intent to become a United States citizen. Family lore says that Zellner and his brother, Willhelm Emil Zellner, moved to Fayetteville at the same time.[2]

Sometime soon after arriving, Emil Zellner took up the cabinet-making craft, while Ferdinand Zellner began teaching music at the Fayetteville Female Seminary.

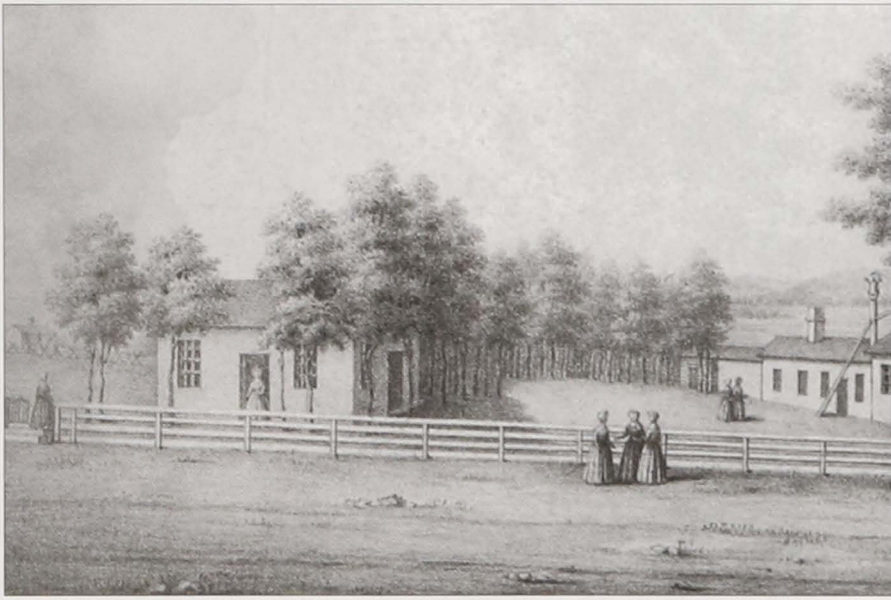
The seminary was established in 1839 by Sophia Sawyer, a missionary to the Cherokee nation. She initially taught in southern Tennessee and northwest Georgia but traveled west with Cherokees when they were forced to leave their traditional homeland and resettle in the Indian Territory (present-day Oklahoma). Sawyer was closely associated with the Ridge and

Photo courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

Jenny Lind, the Swedish nightingale.

Boudinot families, members of the Treaty Party who signed a treaty with the federal government, agreeing to move west. Once in the Indian Territory, though, a faction of Cherokees that blamed the forced removal on the so-called Treaty Party took revenge, killing the patriarchs of the Ridge and Boudinot families. Because of the civil strife within the Cherokee Nation and the perception of continued danger in the Indian Territory, the Ridge family and Sawyer moved to Fayetteville.

Sawyer's school grew in reputation and drew students from across Arkansas, Louisiana, Texas and the Indian Territory, as well as occasional students from the east. In the early 1850s, Sawyer hired Zellner to teach music. The school had employed other music teachers when possible, but music was usually an adjunct subject taught by a teacher who happened to have some musical knowledge in addition to traditional subjects. When the school first taught piano, the lessons were strictly provided as



Fayetteville Female Seminary, where Zellner taught music.

theory because the school had no piano for practicing. By the time that Zellner arrived, however, the school had received a piano from a family in exchange for education of their daughter.

Sawyer died of tuberculosis in 1854, and her estate was willed to the American Missionary Board, which had never provided financial support for her school but from which she felt a moral support. The Missionary Board in turn sold the school to one of the teachers, Miss Mary T. Daniels of Fayetteville, who sold a half interest to another teacher, Lucretia Foster Smith, who became principal of the school. Zellner continued his teaching of piano and violin. In 1857, he became a naturalized citizen of the United States.

Along with his teaching, Zellner began writing music, creating songs based on the popular styles of Germany with which he had grown up. His first published composition was titled "Fayetteville Polka" in honor of his adopted home. The "Fayetteville

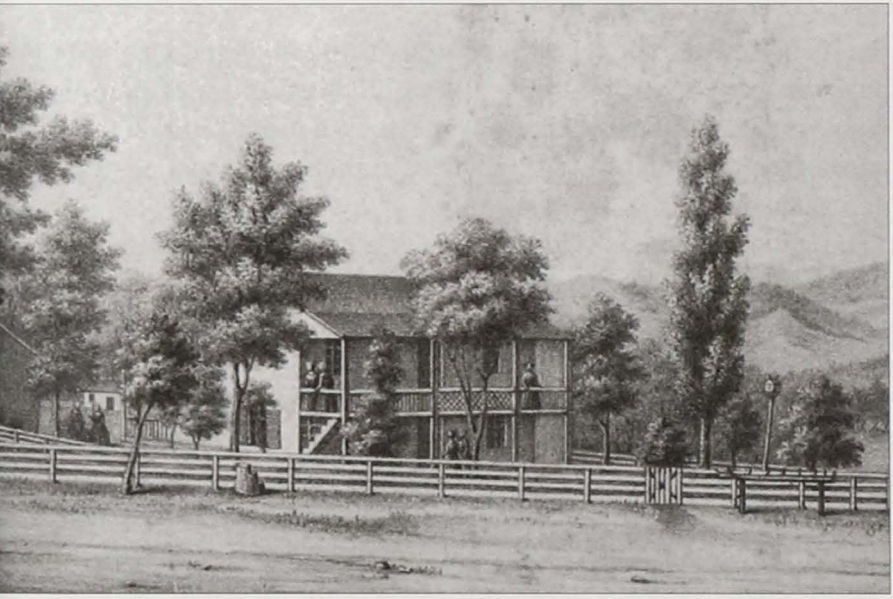
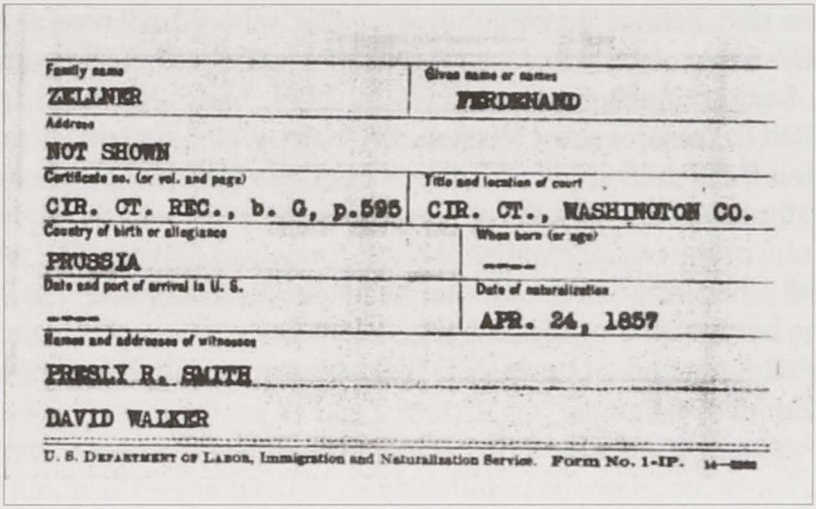


Photo courtesy



Family name	Given name or names
ZELLNER	FERDINAND
Address	
NOT SHOWN	
Certificate no. (or vol. and page)	Title and location of court
CIR. CT. REC., b. G, p.595	CIR. CT., WASHINGTON CO.
Country of birth or allegiance	When born (or age)
PRUSSIA	----
Date and port of arrival in U. S.	Date of naturalization
----	APR. 24, 1857
Names and addresses of witnesses	
PRESLY R. SMITH	
DAVID WALKER	

U. S. Department of Labor, Immigration and Naturalization Service. Form No. 1-IP.

An Immigration and Naturalization Service record shows the date that Ferdinand Zellner became a citizen. It was witnessed by Presley R. Smith, the county clerk, and David Walker, a former associate justice.

Polka" is believed to be the first composition published by an Arkansas writer. The well-established publishing house of Balmer & Weber of St. Louis printed the "Fayetteville Polka," and Zellner began a long friendship with Charles Balmer, one of the principles of the firm.

The genre of music known as polka originated in Bohemia and spread west across eastern and central Europe into Germany early in the 19th century, and then to America via German immigrants such as Zellner. Polkas hit the height of their popularity during the mid-19th century, both with audiences and composers. Zellner dedicated his polka to one of his students, Katy Smith. As a young girl, Smith was voted Queen of May in 1852 and crowned in Fayetteville's McGarrah Grove, next to the campus of Arkansas College.

Zellner was only 24 years old at the time the "Fayetteville Polka" was published in 1856. He was described as having black hair and hazel eyes and as standing 5 feet 11 inches. Whether the

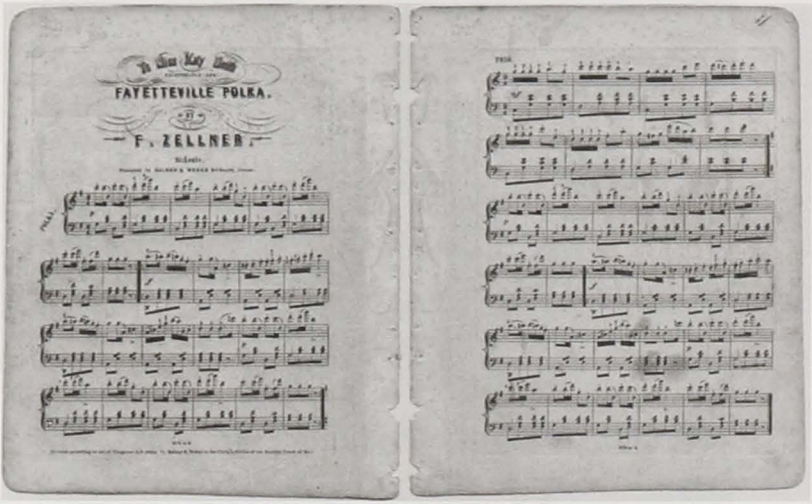



Photo courtesy of Special Collections, University of Arkansas

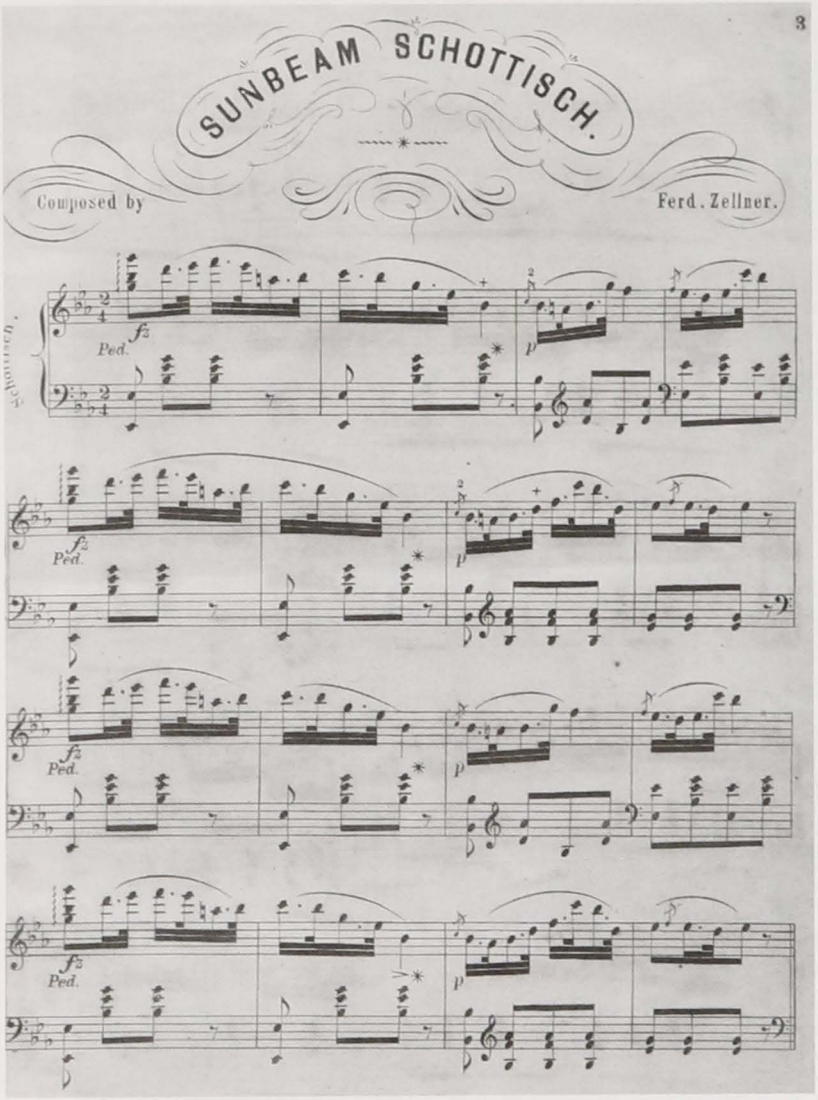
The sheet music of "Fayetteville Polka," composed by Ferdinand Zellner and dedicated to Katy Smith. It is the earliest known Arkansas composition to be published as sheet music.

dedication indicated a romantic attachment on Zellner's part is difficult to ascertain. He wrote another work, "Sunbeam Schottisch," dedicated to Mary Walker, daughter of David Walker. It was also published by Balmer & Weber the same year, with additional copies also published in Louisville, Ky.; New Orleans, La.; and Cincinnatti, Ohio. "Sunbeam Schottisch" is a bright, swaying-paced tune that sounds like it should be the piano soundtrack to a silent movie. The schottische is another folk style that came out of Bohemia during the 19th century and became fused with American ragtime at the turn of the 20th century.

Zellner's facility with musical instruments, however, did not extend to voice. His lack of vocal teaching prompted some criticism by girls attending a cross-town school that had been started by the Baptist educator, T.B. Van Horne. The Fayetteville Female Institute had a vocal instructor, a Miss Corwin who was a niece of Ohio Senator Tom Corwin, and she "could sing to 'beat the band.'"[3]

The cover of "Sunbeam Schottisch," also published in 1858.

Courtesy of Charlie Alison

Criticism of Zellner, however, also appeared to be rooted on some occasions only in his ethnicity. Some of the families of English and Scottish descent took a dim view of the immigrants from

Courtesy of Charlie Alison

The first page of "Sunbeam Schottisch," composed by Ferdinand Zellner and dedicated to Mary Walker, daughter of Judge David Walker.

Germany and Austria. During the 1850s, Fayetteville's population swelled, and part of the growth was fueled by immigrants who came from northern states and several foreign countries. In 1860, Zellner lived in a boarding house with 18 other people, including people from Iceland, New York and Massachusetts. Members of the Freyschlag family, who were also from Germany and had moved to Fayetteville much earlier, also taught at the Female Seminary and were disparaged by some members of the community. Although issues such as these bubbled in Arkansas, they never boiled over in the way that the question of slavery and secession did.

In 1861, when the state elected delegates to a convention to consider secession, sentiments in Fayetteville were strongly in favor of remaining in the Union. Although the region couldn't be described as favoring abolition, both Fayetteville and nearly all of the mountainous part of northern and western Arkansas elected pro-Union delegates to the convention to consider secession, and they prevented Arkansas from seceding at their first meeting in March 1861. After the attack on Fort Sumter, S.C., however, the sentiment of the delegates shifted in favor of secession.

During the latter part of 1861 and early 1862, Fayetteville became a staging ground for Confederate forces that were forging allegiances with the Indian nations to the west and anticipating the possibility that Missouri might secede as well. Many of Fayetteville's young men joined Confederate companies as they were organized. Zellner's brother, William Emil Zellner, may have served in the Confederate army, but Ferdinand Zellner does not appear to have served on either side, and he later made statements indicating that he remained loyal to the Union.[4]

Confederate forces handed the Union its hat in the first major battle of the Trans-Mississippi at Wilson's Creek, Missouri. The Confederate forces, however, did not press their advantage but instead retreated to Arkansas. With them came Fayetteville's first casualties, four Confederate soldiers who were buried at Mount Comfort Cemetery.

As Union forces regained strength in early 1862 and pressed south, Confederate Gen. Benjamin McCulloch ordered his troops at Fayetteville to burn all buildings of military value in Fayetteville as well as vacant buildings. The buildings of the Fayetteville Female Seminary avoided being burned during this initial conflagration, but most of the mercantile and dry goods stores on Fayetteville's square were burned, and the rival Fayetteville Female Institute, which had been turned into an arsenal, was also set afire to prevent its stores from falling into Union hands.

Union troops under Gen. Curtiss arrived in Fayetteville in late February but soon withdrew and moved north closer to the Missouri supply lines.

Less than a week after they had left Fayetteville, the Confederate troops came back through headed north for the Battle of Pea Ridge. The Union troops held sway at Pea Ridge, the largest battle of the trans-Mississippi, and the Confederates retreated south of the Boston Mountains. Although Fayetteville was recaptured by the Union forces days after the Battle of Pea Ridge, Union commanders did not believe the city could be held and withdrew again. Over the rest of the year, both forces traded occupation of Fayetteville.

Fayetteville residents tried to carry on with daily life as best they could.

The Fayetteville Female Seminary continued to provide education as it was able. Ferdinand Zellner purchased the buildings and grounds of the seminary from Lucretia Foster and Mary Daniels in 1862. His presence in Fayetteville during this period also augurs against the likelihood that he served in the Confederate army. After the Battle of Prairie Grove in December 1962, the main building of the seminary was used as a hospital, as were many other homes and buildings in Fayetteville. Sometime later, though, the two main buildings of the school burned, and at least one report indicated the fire occurred during the Battle of Fayetteville on April 18, 1863.

The ebb and flow of Union troops, Confederate forces and guerrilla groups without allegiance caused residents on both

sides to seek safety away from the border region. While Confederate-sympathetic families moved to Texas, those sympathetic to the Union fled north to Missouri when circumstances allowed. Sometime relatively soon after the Battle of Fayetteville, Zellner and other residents of Fayetteville left the town for safer situations. "My desire is, like theirs to find a place, which we can call our home once more, a place of which we have been so ruthlessly deprived at the very outset of this unholy rebellion," Zellner wrote later.[5]

Initially, Zellner settled with the Tebbetts family, which had left Fayetteville earlier and settled a farm outside of St. Louis. The farm was described as comprising more than a thousand acres. The family began calling the farm "Exilia" as it became a haven and stop-off point for other refugees who left war-torn Arkansas for safer environs. Friends from Fayetteville such as the Baxter and the Graham families visited the Tebbetts family, and Zellner joined the milieu at Exilia temporarily before moving into St. Louis to begin teaching music again.[6]

During that same year, the exiles began planning a trip to California. Robert Graham, who had founded Arkansas College in Fayetteville, was solicited to establish an educational center at Woodland, California. To many living in the strife-torn border states, where divisive political sentiments and potential physical harm were the constants, the state of California, far removed from the war, represented a chance to escape the maelstrom of the Civil War. In January 1864, Zellner agreed to join the group and to take charge of the department of music at the California school, which he described as the Young Ladies' Seminary.

Zellner moved from Exilia to St. Louis while the plans continued so that he could resume teaching private lessons. Jonas Tebbetts wrote that Zellner at first met with little success, so much so that he moved from his initial place of lodging to a boarding house "where his expenditures would be met by his income," a move that Tebbetts recommended. The boarding house was at the corner of 12th Street and Olive.

In June, Zellner's plans for a new life came perilously close to

disaster. On June 1, 1864, Federal officials arrested him and several other residents at his boarding house. They were taken to the Gratiot Street Military Prison and charged with being members of a secret society plotting the secession of Missouri.[7]

Friends of Zellner came to his aid immediately, protesting that he had been a Union supporter. Charles Balmer of Balmer & Weber, the publishing house that brought Zellner's compositions to print a decade earlier, was among the first to hear of Zellner's arrest and spread the word. Both he and Judge Tebbetts wrote letters on June 3 to Col. J.P. Sanderson, the provost marshall general at St. Louis to seek favor for Zellner.

A lithograph of Gratiot Street Military Prison, as it appeared not long after the Civil War.

In a hastily written note, Balmer told authorities that Zellner had assisted at charitable events such as a recent benefit for the Sanitary Fair, events at which he provided his help for free or had given his own money to the cause: "These occasions together with his other bussiness [sic] have kept him busy enough & would have hardly left him time to meddle in other affairs." After noting Zellner's association with "strong Union Men," Balmer added a post script: "I would further state that he is entirely depending on his music lessons for a living, his scholars being amongst the best families of the City & there fore bge [sic] you will make all due allowances in the matter."

Balmer's letter was joined by one from Tebbetts on the same day:

> "Zellner has never been engaged in the rebel service and I always knew him as a Union man at Fay-

etteville after the commencement of the rebellion and while engaged in my family as a music teacher. I have known him intimately in the social relations of private life. He is a man of integrity & worth and if words & actions mean anything, he is and has been a Union man."

Tebbetts himself was known to many of the Union military in Missouri for his staunch support of the Union while he lived in Arkansas and for being arrested by Confederate Gen. McCulloch on charges of treason. The weight of their letters was joined by a heftier one on June 4 from Judge Barton Bates of the Missouri Supreme Court, who had gotten to know Zellner during the past year. Wrote Bates:

"I desire to state for the benefit that I became acquainted with him since fifteen or eighteen months ago in St. Charles County where he was then residing at the house of Judge J.M. Tebbetts.

"He was understood to be a Union refugee from Arkansas. I met with him occasionally and had conversations with him at different places in the neighbourhood.

"Last winter he came to St. Louis and since the present (March) term of the Supreme Court at this place, I have occasionally met him casually on the streets and upon my earnest invitation has visited me several times at my room in the Court house.

"From my intercourse with him I esteem him a very moral intelligent man of thorough loyalty, and if my testimony to that effect can be of any service to him, I will be ready to give it at any time.

"As I do not even know the charge upon which he is arrested, I cannot of course express any opinion about it.

"I can be found at almost all times at my room in the Court house."[8]

Zellner was released from the military prison on June 4 after posting bond of $1,000 and making a statement to the au-

thorities. The statement, which appeared to have been written in someone else's handwriting, said that he was living in Fayetteville at the time the war broke out. "I didn't believe in the so called Southern Confedracy [sic]. My Sympathies was always been with the north. I belong to no secret society. I took the Oath of Allegiance to the US in the summer 62 I think. ... I never was in the Reble [sic] Army." Upon release, Zellner was required to stay within the Department of Missouri, report for trial when called, and report weekly by letter to the office of the provost marshall general.[9]

A month later on July 7, Zellner wrote to Sanderson, the provost marshal general, to ask that he be released from his bond so that he could go west with the Tebbettses and Grahams to California: "I would desire, and hereby petition you, to be, either released from said obligations, or have the privilege of moving to the State of California and report there to the Officer in command. ... I take occasion here to say, that I always have been, and ever expected to be, a supporter of the Government of my adoption."[10]

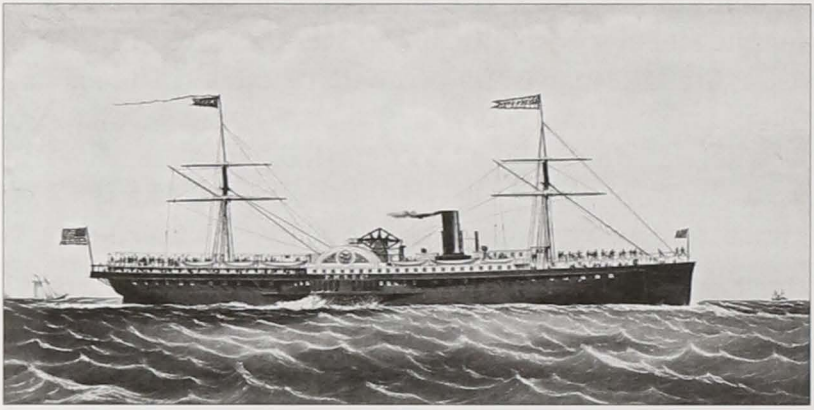
The next day, Sanderson issued a letter requesting Zellner's release from his bond. He wrote that "Zellner alleged that, whatever objectionable conversation or association he may have, justly subjecting him to suspicions of disloyalty, he never was in any way a secessionist or sympathizer; but, on the contrary, always an unconditional Union man." Zellner was ordered released from his bond on July 11.[11]

By August, Zellner was in New York City to join the Tebbettses and Grahams to board the steamer Northern Light for the long trip to the Isthmus of Panama. The Tebbetts' daughter, Marian, described the Northern Light, one of Vanderbilt's liners, as a "miserable old boat."

"The boat was dark and crowded and smelly," she wrote. "One's nose took a chronic uplift because of coming across chloride of lime saucers set at odd places. One had to wait for experience to teach him the difference between Atlantic and Pacific steamers."[12]

That experience would come soon enough, but the group first needed to get across the Caribbean. Although the fighting of the Civil War had begun to turn against the Confederate forces, the steamer would have to pass through enemy waters off the coast of South Carolina and Georgia. While crossing, the passengers caught sight of another ship shadowing their movements, staying within contact but not approaching. The Confederate ship Alabama had successfully attacked other Union boats in the same latitudes, and Marian Tebbetts expressed consternation that their small steamer might be attacked. As it turned out, the shadowing ship proved to be the federal gunboat Powhatan, which was acting as an escort to the Northern Light. When the group reached the Isthmus of Panama, the entourage enjoyed the markets of Aspenwall (Colon) and then took the train over the isthmus to catch the steamer Golden City, a dramatically nicer boat than the Northern Light.

Marian Tebbetts described the Golden City as being "clean and white and big, every piece of brass ablaze with polish, every sailor in white linen and everything run in the order of a first class hotel."



Courtesy of Charlie Alison

A lithograph of the Golden City shows the sleek, well-outfitted steamer of Marian Tebbetts' description when it plied the Pacific between Panama and San Francisco.

An early photograph of the Lick House in San Francisco.

Upon landfall at San Francisco, the entire Arkansas party took rooms at the Lick House and remained several days before taking the steamer Yosemite up the Sacramento River to Woodland for Graham to see the prospective school. The school at Woodland proved impractical, and the group moved on to Santa Rosa, where another school was reported to need teachers. Graham and his son, Alexander, opened a school in the city's "big, awkward, redwood building." A professor Fouch also taught, and Zellner took charge of the school's music department.[13]

Although the Santa Rosa school proved a financial success, it fell short of Graham's expectations, according to Marian Tebbetts. Meanwhile, her own mother and father were debating whether to stay in California or return to the east. The Grahams, too, wanted to return east but couldn't afford the expense yet. Zellner, however, was planning to stay.

On March 1, 1866, he married Penelope "Neppie" Cocke.[14]

Nothing is known of her background. She only lived two years after their marriage, dying Aug. 9, 1868.

By 1871, Zellner was teaching at Pacific Methodist College. The college opened at Vacaville, California, in 1860, but its operations moved to Santa Rosa in 1870, at which time the college had 111 students. That number grew to 165 by the next semester. Zellner was listed as professor of music.[15]

The wider civic amenities of the bay area allowed Zellner to reconnect with fellow immigrants from his homeland. In December 1872, he was nominated for sergeant-at-arms for the Austrian Benevolent Society, which met in San Francisco.[16]

According to the *San Francisco Morning Call*, Zellner married Olive Jeanette "Jennie" Beam on July 1, 1874, at Santa Rosa. She was only 17 years old when they married, 24 years younger than Zellner. Beam was born in California in 1857. Her parents were Jeremiah Beam and Mary Logan Beam.[17] Her father was from

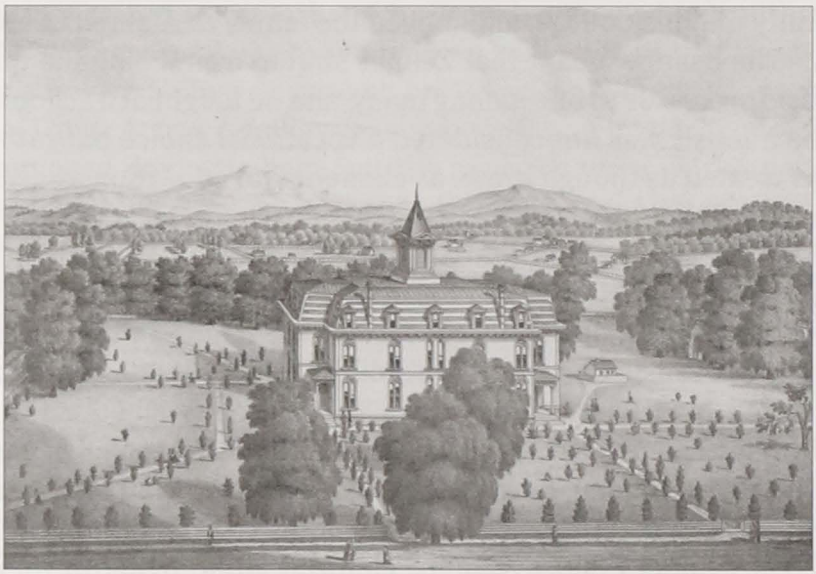


Photo courtesy of the David Rumsey Map Collection

The campus of Pacific Methodist College in Santa Rosa, Calif., as it appeared about 1877.

New York and worked as a farmer, a cabinetmaker and furniture dealer during his life. He moved to Arkansas by the late 1830s and married Mary Logan on Nov. 11, 1839, in Crawford County. Although they had one child, David, in about 1846 while still living in Arkansas, they moved to Sacramento County, Calif., before Olive Jeanette was born in 1857.[18]

In California, Jeremiah Beam worked initially as a farmer and listed $4,000 worth of real estate and $5,000 worth of personal estate. The Beams moved to Petaluma Township in Sonoma County, Calif., sometime after 1860 and by 1870 were within Santa Rosa, where they would have come in contact with Zellner if not sooner.

Ten months after their marriage, Ferdinand and Jennie Zellner had their first child, a son, on May 1, 1875, according to the *Russian River Flag*, the newspaper of nearby Healdsburg, Calif. This first son appears to have died as an infant though and was not listed in the 1880 census.

In 1876, Zellner quit teaching at Pacific Methodist, joined the faculty of Mills College, and moved the family to Alameda County.[19] The change meant that Zellner shifted from being the only music professor to one among many, and he taught at a school in which music was not considered a vocational choice but rather was treated as though it was as elemental to education as arithmetic or reading. Of the 270 students attending Mills College in 1873, more than 200 of them studied piano and more than 50 studied singing. Along with teaching, Zellner assisted the Musical Society in producing its concerts in the main Seminary Hall.

In the music department at Mills College, Zellner was surrounded by fellow immigrants: "The Germans and Austrians fairly swarmed: Ernest Hartmann, Frederic Katzenbach, Emil Steinle, Otto Linden, Edward Hohfeld, Otto Seyd, and Ferdinand Zellner (who continued well on into Louis Lisser's time)."[20]

The Zellners had five more children while living in Alameda County, four of whom lived to adulthood: Chester born in 1877, Sidney in 1878, Emily in 1882 and Horace in 1886. A son named Gordon was born in 1880 but was not listed among the

Photo courtesy of Mills College, F.W. Olin Library, Special Collections and Archive

Seminary Hall, the main building of Mills College near Oakland, Calif., as it appeared about 1873. The instruction of music at Mills College was central to the curriculum of the college.

family members in the 1890 census. The Zellner children grew up in a mixed neighborhood in Brooklyn Township, southeast of Oakland. The Zellners were doing well enough that the family employed a live-in servant, an 18-year-old domestic named Ah Tong. A few families in surrounding neighborhoods also employed domestic help, but the majority were working class families, mixed among a variety of ethnicities. A large community of Chinese, employed in construction of railroad beds for the Central Pacific Railroad, lived nearby. Numerous families living nearby were Portuguese immigrants, many of whom were employed in the fishing industry.[21]

Zellner continued to teach at Mills College until 1888. In 1889, the family moved back to Santa Rosa, and he became a professor of music on the faculty of the reorganized Pacific Methodist College. They bought a house at 826 Humboldt Street, about six blocks northeast of the college campus. As the children reached maturity, Chester studied to become an engineer, while Sidney took a job in a local bakery. In 1898, the last of the Zellner childen, Leslie, was born.

Sometime about 1900, Ferdinand and Olive became estranged. At the time, Ferdinand was nearing 70 while Olive was still in her early 40s. Olive moved to Stockton, Calif. The family appeared to break up as well. The elder sons stayed in Santa Rosa and continued to live with their father. Daughter Emily married Richard Benjamin Brook in 1904, and they had two daughters, Eudora Elizabeth in 1908 and Rosamond in 1909. By the next decade, they were living in Oakland with Olive, Horace and Leslie.[22]

The earthquake of 1906, best known for the destruction of San Francisco, also leveled much of Santa Rosa, including the main college building and most of downtown Santa Rosa. It is likely that the Zellner house was lost as well. By the 1910 census, at least, Zellner was at a new address.

Of Ferdinand's children, Chester became an engineer and worked in the waterworks department of the city of Santa Rosa while Sidney continued in the bakery trade. Horace became a brakeman for the Southern Pacific Railroad.

Ferdinand Zellner died of congestive liver failure on July 2, 1919, at Santa Rosa, just two weeks before his 88th birthday. Sidney was still living with him and took care of him in his last years. Zellner was buried in Santa Rosa's Rural Cemetery, where his first wife, Penelope, was alread interred. His son, Chester, who died in 1932, and his second wife, Olive Jeanette, who died in 1934, were also buried there.

By 1920, daughter Emily and her family moved to San Francisco where her husband, Richard, worked as an electrical engineer for the U.S. Navy. Initially the family rented a flat on Oak Street but bought a house at 127 Fourteenth Street by 1930, just a block from the Presidio. Daughter Eudora Elizabeth, at age 22, had a job as an assistant in an office while Rosamond worked as a commercial artist. Neither of the granddaughters appeared to have married or had children.[23]

Horace also married sometime before 1920, but his wife Jessie was committed to the Agnews State Hospital by 1930, and they didn't appear to have had any children. Leslie Zellner

moved back to Santa Rosa and lived with his brother Sidney. Horace died in 1943; Sidney died in 1950; Emily and Richard died within a year of each other in 1969 and 1968, respectively. Zellner's granddaughters, Rosamond and Eudora, died in 1964 and 1981, respectively.

EDITOR'S NOTE: A condensed version of this biography of Ferdinand Zellner was first published in 2011 by the online Encyclopedia of Ozark History and Culture. So far, no photograph of Ferdinand Zellner has been found.

END NOTES

1. Ware, W. Porter and Thaddeus C. Lockard Jr. *P.T. Barnum Presents Jenny Lind: The American Tour of the Swedish Nightingale* (Baton Rouge and London: Louisiana State University Press, 1980) 69-72. Several modern reports have erroneously indicated that Lind also performed at the King Opera House in Van Buren, Ark., on the Arkansas River. Lind's itinerary, however, does not show any stops in Arkansas, much less on the western side of Arkansas. Too, the current King Opera House was not built until the 1880s.
2. Zodrow, David. "Long Forgotten Song Surfaces," *Northwest Arkansas Times* (Fayetteville, December 22, 1974) Section D, 1-2.
3. Banes, Marian Tebbetts. *The Journal of Marian Tebbetts Banes* (Fayetteville: Washington County Historical Society, 1977) 81.
4. Confederate Widow's Pension Application by Mary Zellner, No. 27023, State Archives. Emil Zellner's widow, Mary Polson Zellner, filed for a Confederate widow's pension in 1925, well after his death in 1911. Her pension application indicated that W.E. Zellner served in Press Carnahan's company, part of McRae's Regiment, formally known as the 21st Arkansas Infantry Regiment. The application said he served from 1863 to the end of the war.
5. Untitled Papers and Slips Belonging in Confederate Compiled Service Records, (National Archives and Records Administration M347)
6. Banes. *The Journal of Marian Tebbetts Banes*. 111-121.
7. Selected Records of the War Department relating to Confederate Prisoners of War, 1861-1865, (National Archives Microfilm Publication M598, Roll 72) 155, 223; Untitled Papers and Slips Belonging in Confederate Compiled Service Records, (National Archives and Records Administration M347)
8. Untitled Papers and Slips Belonging in Confederate Compiled Service Records, (National Archives and Records Administration M347)
9. Ibid.
10. Ibid.
11. Ibid.
12. Banes. *The Journal of Marian Tebbetts Banes*. 111-121.
13. Ibid.

14. *Daily Evening Bulletin*, (San Francisco, Calif.: March 8, 1866); *Territorial Enterprise* (Virginia City, Nevada: March 1, 1866)
15. Thompson, Robert A. *Sonoma County History: Historical and Descriptive Sketch of Sonoma County, California* (Philadelphia: L.H. Everts & Co., 1877) 70-92.
16. *Daily Evening Bulletin*, (San Francisco, Calif.: December 14, 1872)
17. Family history indicates Jeremiah Beam was born in 1812 in New York and died in 1880 in Santa Rosa, Calif. Mary Logan was born Aug. 11, 1824, in Wayne, Mo., and died in 1881 in Santa Rosa. The couple had a third child in late 1859 or 1860, according to the 1860 census of Brighton Township, Sacramento County, Calif., but who apparently died prior to the 1870 census.
18. 1860 U.S. Census, Brighton Township, Sacramento County, California. National Archives and Records Administration. No record of whether the Beams crossed paths with Zellner while in Arkansas has been found so far, although there is about a six-year period in which they might have been in Arkansas at the same time.
19. 1880 U.S. Census, Alameda County, California. National Archives and Records Administration Publication, T9, Roll 62.
20. James, Elias Olan. *The Story of Cyrus and Susan Mills: a Biography of the Founders of Mills College* (Stanford, Calif.: Stanford University Press, 1953) 186.
21. 1900 U.S. Census, Sonoma County, California, 94.
22. *San Francisco Chronicle*. July 12, 1904. Page 12; World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918, for Horace Stewart Zellner and Richard Benjamin Brook.
23. California Death Index, 1940-1997. (Sacramento, Calif.: State of California Department of Health Services, Center for Health Services). All of the Brooks died at San Francisco. Rosamond Brooks died Oct. 15, 1964; Richard Brooks died Aug. 24, 1968; Emily died a year in July 1969. (The California Death Index put the date of death as July 22, while the Social Security Death Index put the date at July 15.) Eudora died on Oct. 7, 1981. Horace Zellner died Dec. 22, 1943, and his wife, Jessie, died Nov. 22, 1966, at the Agnews State Hospital. Sidney Zellner died June 7, 1950.

Fifth Annual Lemke Prize Competition Open for Submissions

The Washington County Historical Society announces the fifth annual competition for the Walter J. Lemke Prize with a call for articles. Anyone interested in Washington County history, whether a professional or amateur historian, is encouraged to enter. Topics can be on any phase of Washington County's history or archeology, deal with an individual or institution connected with the county, and can address any time period.

The winning article will receive $300; Second prize receives $200. Both winners receive framed certificates. Winners will be recognized in August 2012.

Manuscripts will be judged on their contribution to the expansion of the county's history; the originality of the subject; and, the use of primary and secondary sources. The manuscripts must be original material, and not have been previously published; no more than 40 pages, typed, and double-spaced. Footnotes should be included on separate, double-spaced pages, although they do not count toward the 40-page limit. The title page should contain the heading "WALTER J. LEMKE ENTRY," the full title of the manuscript, the author's name, mailing address, telephone number, and e-mail address.

Entries become the property of the Washington County Historical Society and will not be returned to the author. All papers will be considered for publication in the *Flashback*. The historical society reserves the right to award one or no prizes.

Copies of all entries in the Lemke Prize will be deposited with the Special Collections Department at the University of Arkansas Libraries. Entries may be mailed to Lemke Prize, Washington County Historical Society, 118 E. Dickson Street, Fayetteville, AR 72701, or e-mailed to charlie.alison@gmail.com by June 30, 2012. If the entries are e-mailed, they should be either in the PDF or Microsoft Word format.

For additional information on the Walter J. Lemke Prize, please contact Charlie Alison at the above mailing address, at 575-6731 or at charlie.alison@gmail.com.

A Flurry of Scrip at the Outset of the Civil War

As the Civil War began to take hold across Northwest Arkansas 150 years ago, mercantile operations were disrupted in no small way by the loss of secure and trusted currency.

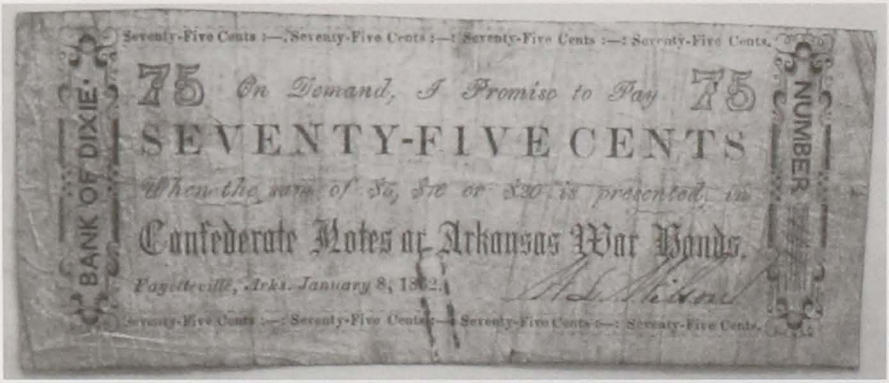
The dollars of the United States of America were no longer legal tender, and currency being issued by the Confederate States of America took awhile to make its way west. Confidence in the Confederate notes, though initially strong, waned as the war progressed.

One hundred and fifty years ago this spring, merchants, would-be bankers and at least one apothecary printed scrip of their own in an effort to provide customers with an easier and sometimes more trusted means of purchasing goods.

The following war-time notes are from the collection of Quintin Trammell, a former member of the Washington County Historical Society board of directors. The accompanying descriptions are excerpted from his research into the backgrounds of the people and businesses connected with the notes.

Trammell collects rare currency printed in Northwest Arkansas, from when the Bank of the State of Arkansas operated a branch at Fayetteville to the period when National Banks in Bentonville, Berryville and Fayetteville issued notes during the early 1900s. He maintains a website with images of the notes and explanations at http://sites.google.com/site/arcurrency/.

At least two printing presses were still in operation in Fayetteville during early 1862 and might have been used for printing the scrip. The former press of *The Arkansian* newspaper was still in good working order, and a press taken from Springfield, Mo., by the Confederate army as it withdrew from the state in 1861 was used to print *The War Bulletin* until the Confederate army retreated from Fayetteville after the Battle of Pea Ridge.


BANK OF DIXIE
NUMBER
75
On Demand, I Promise to Pay
75
SEVENTY-FIVE CENTS
When the sum of $5, $10 or $20 is presented, in
Confederate Notes or Arkansas War Bonds.
Fayetteville, Ark's. January 8, 1862.

The Bank of Dixie was apparently organized without charter in Fayetteville and apparently owned by Washington Lafayette Wilson, whose signature appears on the note above. Wilson was born in Verona, Oneida County, New York, on May 8, 1810, and came to Fayetteville in the early 1830s with his wife, Catherine Drysdale. They lived on the northeast corner of the Fayetteville square, and Wilson also operated a dry goods store on the north side of the square.

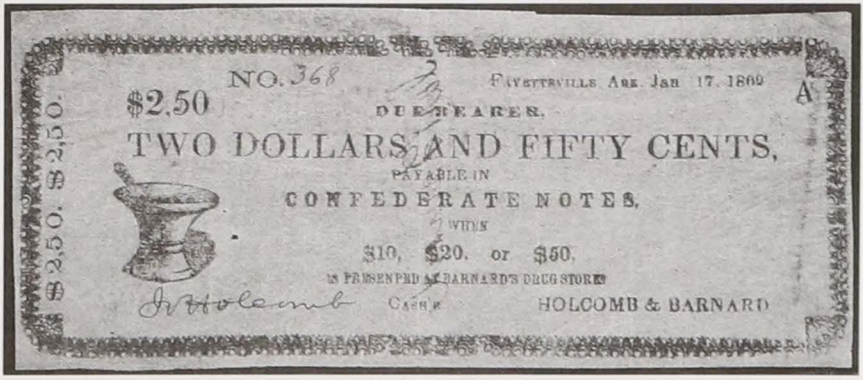
Wilson helped organize the Masonic Lodge, the first in Arkansas, and served in some capacity with the State Bank of Arkansas during the 1838-40 period. He appears to have created the Bank of Dixie in connection with his mercantile business, even though it violated the Arkansas Constitution, and issued notes in denominations of 25 cents, 50 cents, 75 cents and a dollar, although larger denominations may also have been issued. They all appear to have been issued on January 8, 1862.

Wilson's wife, Catherine, died in 1860, and he died in 1864.

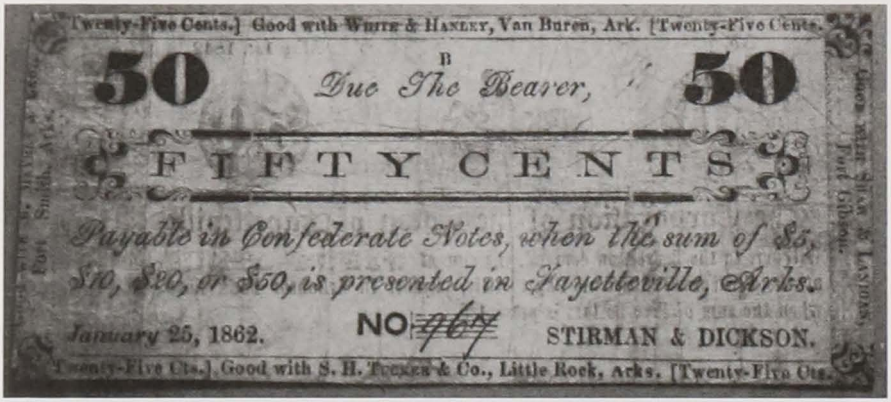
A one dollar note issued on May 29, 1862, apparently by W.T. Taylor, whose identity remains unsure. Taylor issued a 50-cent note as well.

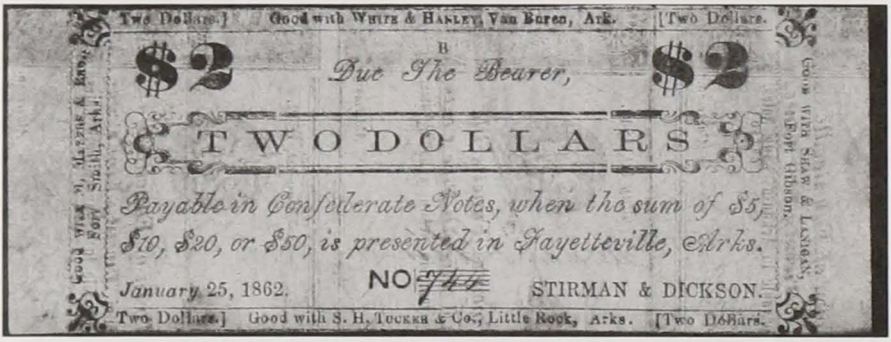
William Madison Kidd issued notes on August 12, 1862, just a week before his father, Tandy K. Kidd, was shot dead in the streets of Boonsboro (Cane Hill). Kidd issued 25-cent, 50-cent and $1 notes as well. Tandy Kidd had been a prosperous farmer at Cane Hill and operated a flour mill and saw mill.

William Kidd served in the Arkansas State Troops and participated in the Battle of Wilson's Creek near Springfield, Mo., where he was slightly wounded. The State Troops disbanded after the battle, and Kidd did not pursue military activities afterward although he did apparently continue to support and abet the Confederate cause.



Holcomb & Barnard issued scrip in denominations of 25 cents, 50 cents and $2.50 at a minimum. Joseph Holcomb is well known as a son of John Holcomb, a founder of Shiloh, present-day Springdale, and later as a Fayetteville merchant and still later as a circuit clerk for Washington County. Two of the houses in which Holcomb lived — Ridge House and Reiff House — are still standing. Less is known about Mr. Barnard, who operated a drug store on the west side of the Fayetteville square. The mortar and pestle illustration on the currency, though, shows that the scrip is connected to the drug store.


Twenty-Five Cents.] Good with White & Hanley, Van Buren, Ark. [Twenty-Five Cents.
50
B
Due The Bearer,
50
FIFTY CENTS
Payable in Confederate Notes, when the sum of $5, $10, $20, or $50, is presented in Fayetteville, Arks.
January 25, 1862.
NO 767
STIRMAN & DICKSON.
Twenty-Five Cts.] Good with S. H. Tucker & Co., Little Rock, Arks. [Twenty-Five Cts.


Two Dollars.] Good with White & Hanley, Van Buren, Ark. [Two Dollars.
$2
B
Due The Bearer,
$2
TWO DOLLARS
Payable in Confederate Notes, when the sum of $5, $10, $20, or $50, is presented in Fayetteville, Arks.
January 25, 1862.
NO 747
STIRMAN & DICKSON.
Two Dollars.] Good with S. H. Tucker & Co., Little Rock, Arks. [Two Dollars.

The prosperous Stirman & Dickson mercantile on the Fayetteville square issued notes on January 25, 1862, at Fayetteville. James Harvey Stirman and Joseph Dickson were among the leading merchants in Fayetteville at the beginning of the Civil War.

Stirman & Dickson added to the cachet of its notes by working with other merchants in Arkansas and the Indian Territory who would also redeem the notes. The other merchants included Mayers & Bro. of Fort Smith, White & Hanley of Van Buren, Shaw & Lanigan of Fort Gibson, and S.H. Tucker and Co. of Little Rock.

The value of these two notes dropped precipitously in February when Confederate troops, evacuating Fayetteville at the approach of Union troops, set fire to many of the city's buildings that might hold military value, which included the Stirman & Dickson store.

Fletcher Family History

By J.B. Hogan

The Fletcher family of the Baldwin community here in Washington County has a long and storied history. Tracing their ancestry to colonial America, present-day Fletchers count Revolutionary War, War of 1812, and Civil War veterans among their predecessors.

Reaching Northwest Arkansas by way of Virginia and Kentucky in the early 1820s,[1] the Fletchers settled in the Baldwin area and the stones and monuments dedicated to them in the Hester Cemetery (Baldwin), as well as the King Cemetery in Harris, Arkansas bear witness to their impact on the county.

From present day members of the family like Jimmy Fletcher, now of rural Fayetteville, the genealogical path leads back to Robert Fletcher (Sr.), who served two tours of military duty with Virginia Regiments during the American Revolution.[2]

The youngest son of John Fletcher, of Chester County, Pennsylvania and Eleanor Hindman Fletcher, born in Londonderry County, Ireland, Robert Fletcher (Sr.) was born sometime between 1738 and 1745 in Chester County, Pennsylvania. By no later than 1749, the Fletcher family had moved to Augusta County, Virginia.[3]

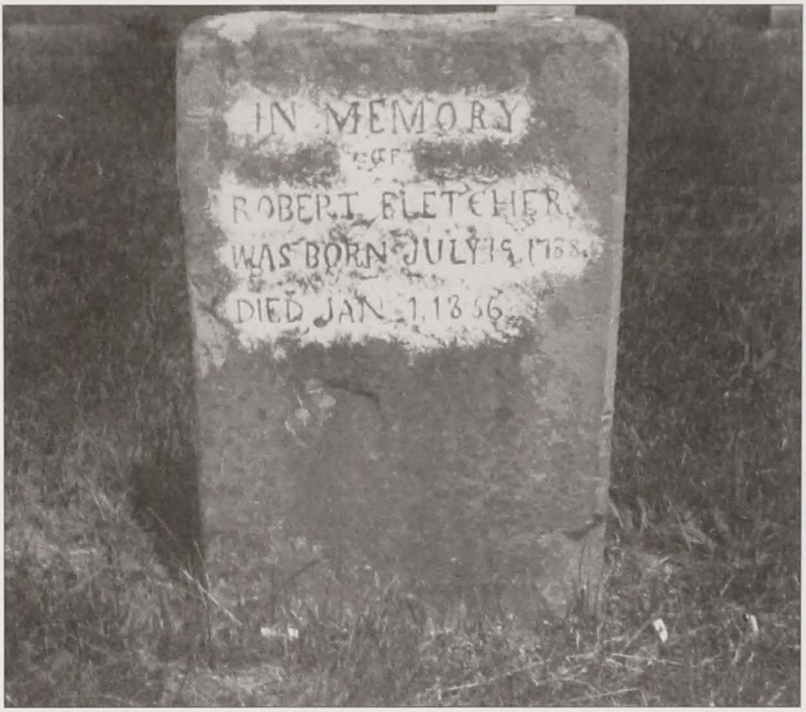
On June 12, 1777, Robert Fletcher (Sr.) enlisted for three years as a Private in Captain Richard Stevens' Company of the 10th Virginia Regiment, which was actually commanded by Colonel Edward Stevens. Family genealogical records indicate that Robert Fletcher (Sr.) was hospitalized (no reasons given) from July 1777 until March 1778.

After leaving hospital in 1778, Robert Fletcher (Sr.) enlisted again for a term of about three months, this time to replace his brother John Fletcher. Robert Fletcher (Sr.) served in Captain Samuel Haw's Company of the 1st Virginia Regiment commanded by a Colonel Woodford.[4]

Robert Fletcher (Sr.) had two older brothers: Jobe and John

Photograph courtesy of Jimmy Fletcher

The gravestone of Job(e) Fletcher, King's Cemetery, Harris Community, Washington County, Arkansas.



Photograph courtesy of Jimmy Fletcher

The gravestone of Robert Fletcher (Jr.), King's Cemetery, Harris Community, Washington County, Arkansas.

Jr. Jobe moved from Virginia to Kentucky in 1779 and John Jr. did the same in 1800.[5]

Prior to the war, around 1763, Robert Fletcher (Sr.) married Christian Febiger in Virginia. They had two sons: John and Robert Fletcher Jr. Little is known of John Fletcher, but Robert Fletcher Jr. was born July 19, 1788, in Rockbridge County, Virginia. On June 25 or 26, 1811, he married Mary "Polly" Wilson in Christian County, Kentucky. Polly Wilson Fletcher was born November 3, 1795, in Harden County, Kentucky.[6]

Robert Fletcher Jr. and Polly Wilson Fletcher had ten children, the first four born in Kentucky. The oldest, John was born in 1811, followed by Timothy Henry, 1813; Jobe, 1815; Eliza, 1818; and Elizabeth, known as Betty, 1820.[7]

On June 18, 1812, war broke out between the United States

Photograph courtesy of Jimmy Fletcher

The gravestone of Polly Fletcher, wife of Robert Fletcher (Jr.), King's Cemetery, Harris Community, Washington County, Arkansas.

and Great Britain. On August 23, 1812, Robert Fletcher Jr. enlisted in the Kentucky Militia for a six-month tour of duty. He served in Captain John W. Shirley's Company, Barbee's Regiment in the Kentucky Militia.[8] After the war, around 1820-1821, Robert Fletcher Jr. moved his family to Baldwin, Arkansas. Five more children were born in Baldwin beginning with James Alexander, 1822; Andrew Jackson, 1824; Jesse L., 1829; Mary Ann, 1832; Robert III, 1833; and Nancy A. 1834.[9]

During the Civil War, other Fletchers continued the tradition of serving in the military. On October 26, 1861, John C. Fletcher enlisted as a private in Company E, 1st Battalion, Arkansas Cavalry (Confederate). On December 6, 1861, Robert and William F. Fletcher also enlisted as privates in the same Company E.[10]

At the time, Company E was commanded by Captain William

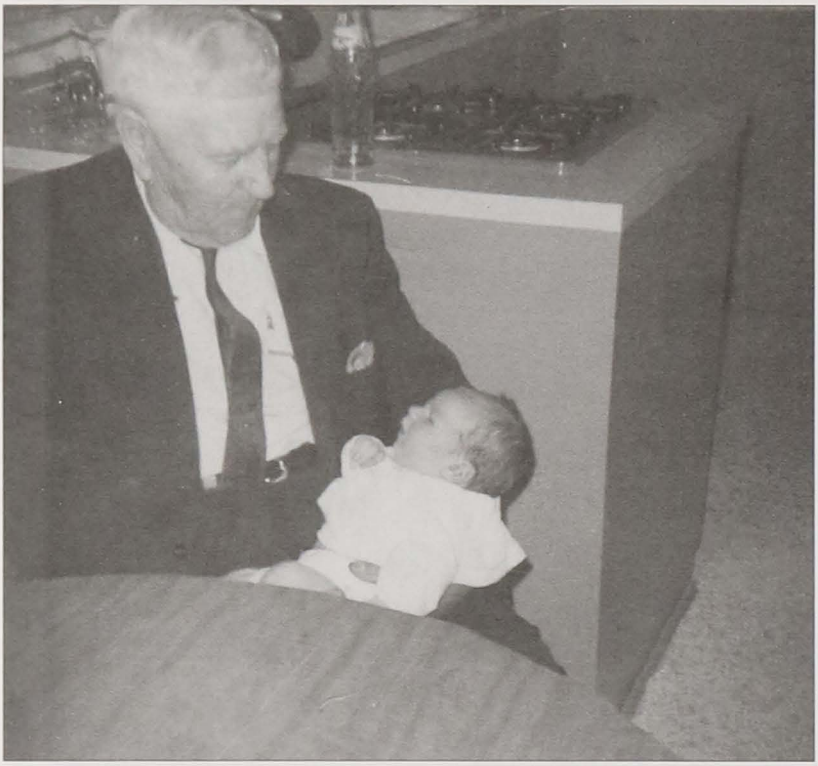
Fletcher family, 1929. From left: John Howard Fletcher, Sarah Ellen Enyart Fletcher

Photograph courtesy of Jimmy Fletcher

(holding granddaugher Audra Marie Fletcher) and Charles Clifford Fletcher.

Photograph courtesy of Jimmy Fletcher

Jimmy Fletcher, Army basic training photo, Fort Chaffee, Arkansas, 1958.



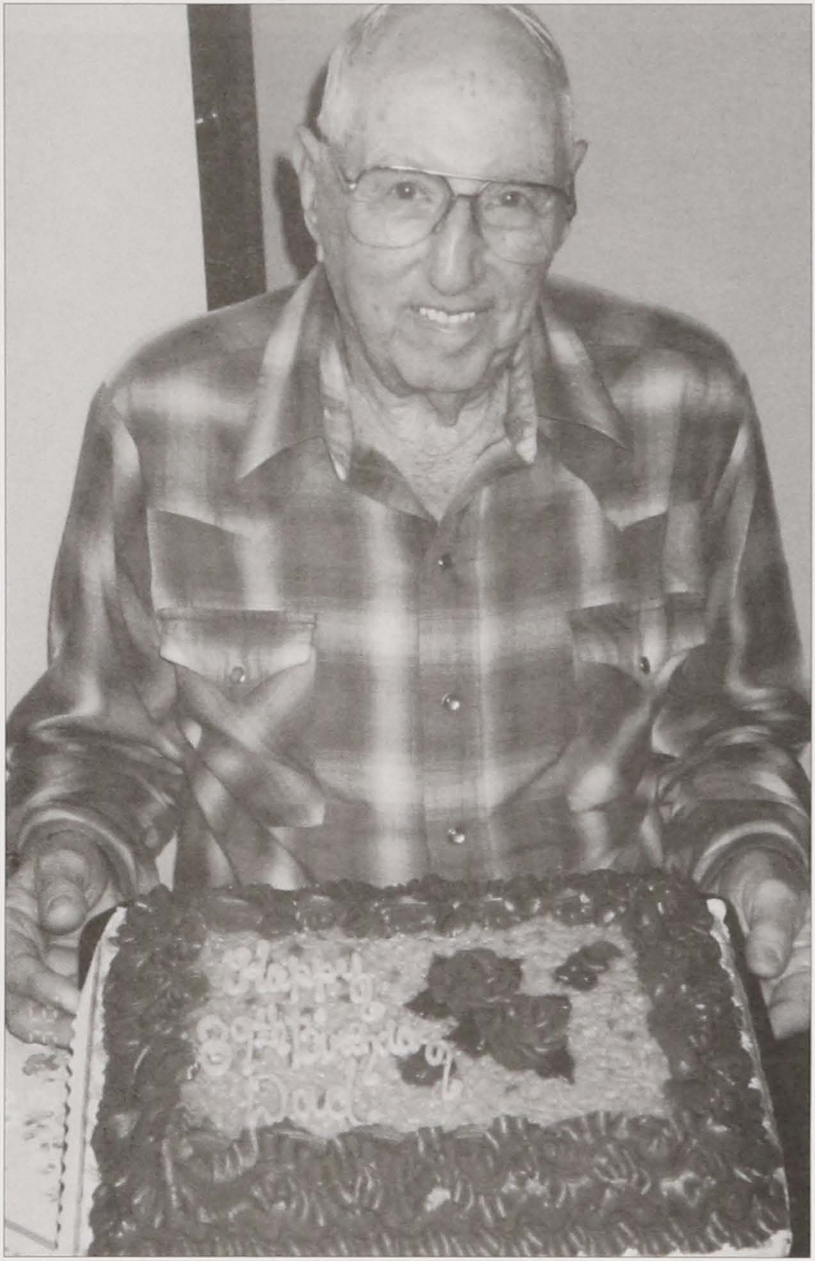
Photograph courtesy of Jimmy Fletcher

Charles Clifford Fletcher, holding grandson Shahn Fletcher, 1966.

H. Brooks. Among the company officers was 2nd Lieutenant E. I. "Ras" Stirman who later became the youngest Colonel in the Confederacy and after the Civil War served as mayor of Fayetteville.[11]

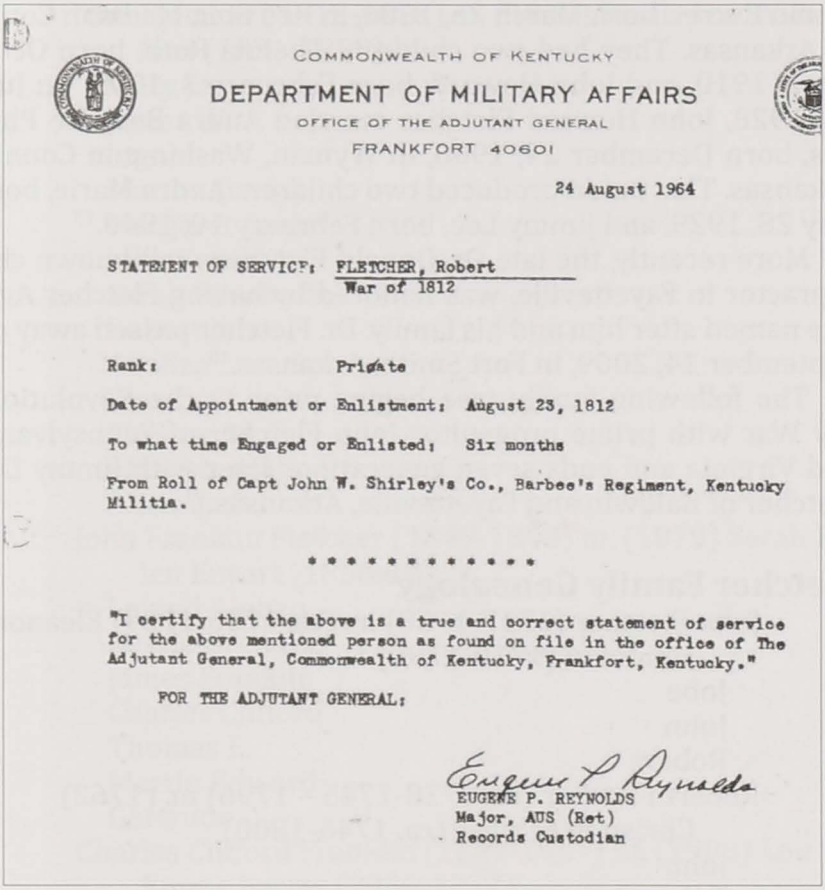
John C. Fletcher was mustered out of the military in January or February of 1863 because he was "Left sick in Arkansas."[12] William F. Fletcher became a prisoner of war after being captured July 4, 1863, at Vicksburg, Mississippi.[13] Robert Fletcher died February 19, 1863, at Grenada, Mississippi.[14]

Jobe Fletcher, older brother of Robert Fletcher, III, was born December 4, 1815, in Kentucky. Settling with his family in Baldwin, Arkansas, Jobe became a farmer and a wagon maker and on



Photograph courtesy of Jimmy Fletcher

John Howard Fletcher, 80th birthday, 1989.



COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AFFAIRS

OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL

FRANKFORT 40601

24 August 1964

STATEMENT OF SERVICE: FLETCHER, Robert
War of 1812

Rank: Private

Date of Appointment or Enlistment: August 23, 1812

To what time Engaged or Enlisted: Six months

From Roll of Capt John W. Shirley's Co., Barbee's Regiment, Kentucky Militia.

* * * * * * * * * * * * *

"I certify that the above is a true and correct statement of service for the above mentioned person as found on file in the office of The Adjutant General, Commonwealth of Kentucky, Frankfort, Kentucky."

FOR THE ADJUTANT GENERAL:

Eugene P. Reynolds
EUGENE P. REYNOLDS
Major, AUS (Ret)
Records Custodian

Document courtesy of Jimmy Fletcher

Robert Fletcher (Jr.), copy of War of 1812 statement of service.

January 23, 1840, married Sarah Ann Williford who was born December 5, 1821 in Tennessee. Jobe and Sarah Fletcher had thirteen children, only eight of whom reached adulthood.[15]

The fourth oldest surviving child, John Franklin Fletcher, born at Baldwin, Arkansas on March 4, 1849, married Mary Jane Enyart of Fayetteville, Arkansas on September 10, 1876. This union produced five children who reached adulthood, including Charles Clifford Fletcher who was born April 20, 1887, in Baldwin, Arkansas.[16]

On June 17, 1908, Charles Clifford Fletcher married Lou Emma Eacret, born March 26, 1886, in Red Star, Madison County, Arkansas. They had two children: Thelma Ruth, born October 2, 1910, and John Howard, born February 3, 1909. On July 21, 1928, John Howard Fletcher married Audra Beatrice Phillips, born December 24, 1908, in Wyman, Washington County, Arkansas. This union produced two children: Audra Marie, born May 28, 1929, and Jimmy Lee, born February 10, 1940.[17]

More recently, the late Dr. Donald Fletcher, well-known chiropractor in Fayetteville, was honored by having Fletcher Avenue named after him and his family. Dr. Fletcher passed away on September 14, 2009, in Fort Smith, Arkansas.[18]

The following family tree begins prior to the Revolutionary War with prime progenitor John Fletcher of Pennsylvania and Virginia and ends seven generations later with Jimmy Lee Fletcher of Baldwin and Fayetteville, Arkansas.[19]

Fletcher Family Genealogy[20]

John Fletcher (1717-1758) m. (ca. 1735-1739) Eleanor Hindman (1719-1790)
- Jobe
- John
- Robert

Robert Fletcher (ca. 1738-1745 – 1796) m. (1762) Christian Febiger (ca. 1746-1800)
- John
- Robert Jr.

Robert Fletcher Jr. (1788-1856) m. (1811) Mary "Polly" Wilson (1795-1875)
- John
- Timothy Henry
- Jobe
- Eliza
- Elizabeth (Betty)
- James Alexander
- Andrew Jackson
- Jesse L.
- Mary Ann
- Robert III

Nancy A.

Jobe Fletcher (1815-1875) m. (1840) Sarah Ann Williford (1821-1888)
- Mary Jane
- James W.
- Lorana
- Martha (twin)
- Margaret (twin)
- John Franklin
- Sarah Elizabeth
- Robert Jobe
- Analiza
- Francis A.
- Thomas M.
- Alice Magdaline
- Amanda B.

John Franklin Fletcher (1849-1898) m. (1879) Sarah Ellen Enyart (1858-1942)
- Leland Alonzo
- Bessie Leonara
- James Franklin
- Charles Clifford
- Thomas E.
- Martin Edward
- Gertrude

Charles Clifford Franklin (1887-1967) m. (1908) Lou Emma Eacret (1886-1952)
- Thelma Ruth
- John Howard

John Howard Fletcher (1909-2001) m. (1928) Audra Beatrice Phillips (1908-1997)
- Audra Marie
- Jimmy Lee

END NOTES

1. Fletcher family genealogical records.
2. National Archives search, May 23, 1947, Mrs. O. L. Fletcher, Temple, Texas, and online ancestor search of Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) website, Mickey Clements, Reference Librarian, Grace Keith Genealogy Collection, Fayetteville, Arkansas Public Library, April 27, 2011.

3. Fletcher family genealogical records and online ancestor search of Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) website, Mickey Clements, Reference Librarian, Grace Keith Genealogy Collection, Fayetteville, Arkansas Public Library, April 27, 2011.
4. Fletcher family genealogical records.
5. Ibid.
6. Ibid.
7. Ibid.
8. Department of Military Affairs, Commonwealth of Kentucky, Statement of Service, War of 1812, 24 August 1964. Robert Fletcher, Jr.'s service in the War of 1812 is also corroborated by the listing of his wife Mary "Polly" Wilson in the Widows of 1812 Veterans Pension roster, Flashback, publication of the Washington Country (AR) Historical Society, Vol. VII, No. 4, July 1957, p. 9.
9. The children of Robert Fletcher, Jr. and Mary "Polly" Wilson are listed in the 1840 and 1850 Federal Census of Washington County, Arkansas.
10. Arkansas History Commission Certification of Confederate Service, Old State House, Little Rock, Arkansas, February 8, 1966. Private Robert Fletcher is listed in the roll of Company E, First Battalion, Arkansas Confederate Cavalry. This unit was organized in Fayetteville, Arkansas, October 9, 1861.
11. Campbell, William S., One Hundred Years of Fayetteville 1828-1928, Fayetteville, Arkansas, 1928, pp. 26, 45, and 98.
12. Arkansas History Commission Certification of Confederate Service, Old State House, Little Rock, Arkansas, February 8, 1966.
13. Ibid.
14. Ibid.
15. In the 1850 Federal Census of Washington County, Arkansas, only three children were as yet listed for the Jobe and Sarah Ann Williford Fletcher family.
16. Fletcher family genealogical records.
17. Ibid. and author interview with Jimmy Fletcher, 2010.
18. Obituary, online at www.lewisfuneralchapel.net
19. Fletcher family genealogical records.
20. Ibid.

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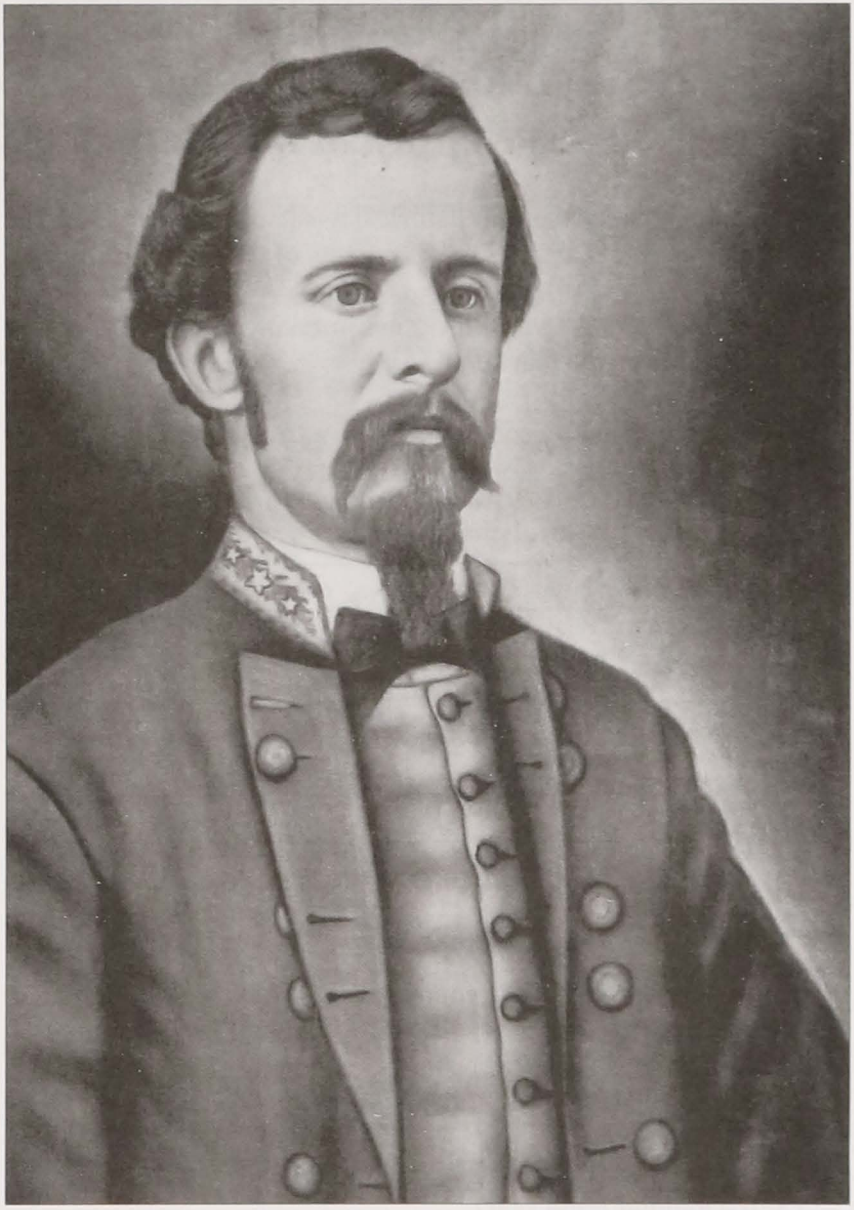
❑ $20 – Regular (One Year)

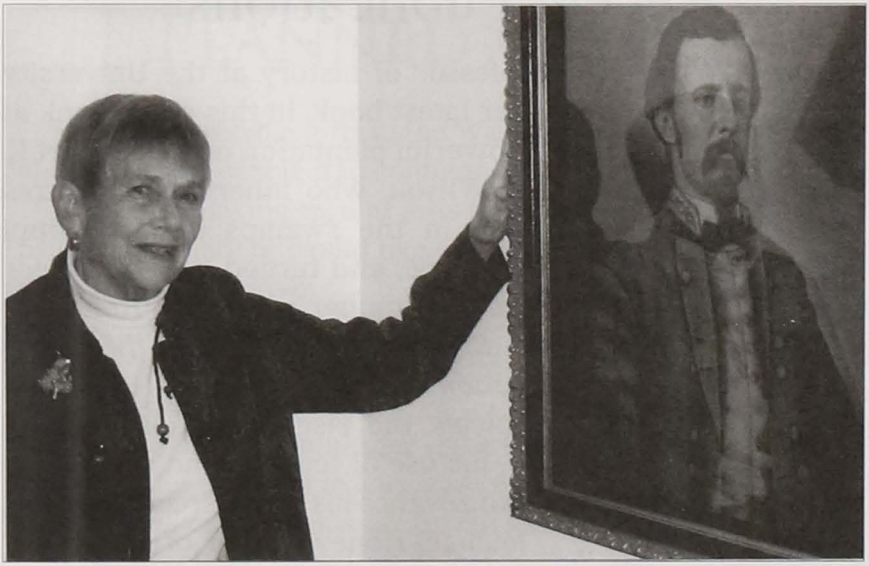
❑ $20 – Regular (One Year)

❑ $20 – Regular (One Year)



Artwork courtesy of Diane Metzger

A drawing of Erasmus I. "Ras" Stirman as he appeared in Confederate uniform. Stirman, who lived in Fayetteville at the time the war started, served in the trans-Mississippi throughout the war.

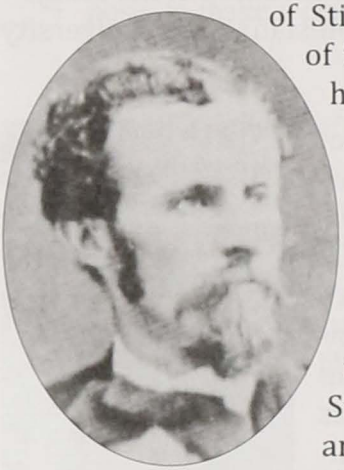


Photograph courtesy of Diane Metzger

Diane Metzger, a descendant of Erasmus I. "Ras" Stirman, stands with the framed portrait of Stirman.

Portrait Resolves Ambiguity

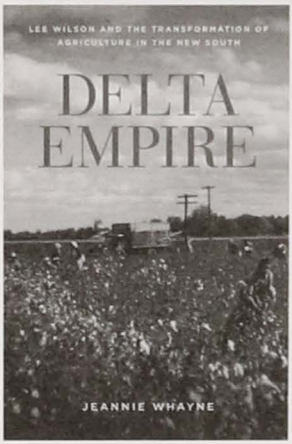
A portrait of Erasmus I. "Ras" Stirman owned by descendants of Stirman helped resolve an ambiguity of identification in William Campbell's history book, *One Hundred Years of Fayetteville: 1828-1928*. On Page 29 of Campbell's history, he included photographs of many of Fayetteville's municipal officers. Stirman served as mayor not long after the Civil War, but Campbell's caption wasn't clear which picture was Stirman and which was R.J. Wilson, another former mayor. The artwork, though, leaves no doubt.



Ras Stirman

Recent Publications

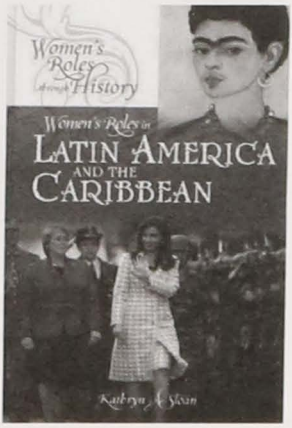
Jeannie Whayne, a professor of history at the University of Arkansas, has released her latest book, in this case a look at the powerful plantation owner Robert E. "Lee" Wilson, who inherited 400 acres of land in the swamps of Mississippi County, Ark., and turned it into a major cotton and lumber operation. Her book, *Delta Empire: Lee Wilson and the Transformation of Agriculture in the New South*, chronicles the rise of Wilson's operations, his use of tenancy and sharecropping to advance his commercial interests.



Michael Honey, author of *Martin Luther King's Last Campaign*, describes Whayne's book as a "remarkable portrait of how the Lee Wilson family created a plantation empire of over 50,000 acres and 2,500 workers in the eerie sunken lands of white supremacy of the Mississippi River Delta of Arkansas — and how African Americans, poor whites, and plantation owners struggled over the consequences. This is an exceptional study."

Delta Empire is published by the Louisiana State University Press.

Kathryn Sloan, associate professor of history at the University of Arkansas, has published *Women's Roles in Latin America and the Caribbean* as part of ABC/CLIO's innovative series titled "Women's Roles through History." It examines women leaders from Queen Isabella of Spain to present-day political leaders such as Chile's Michelle Bachelet and Brazil's Dilma Rousseff, integrating topics such as women's labor and spirituality.



Planned Gifts

Making charitable gifts to the Washington County Historical Society will enable it to continue and expand its programs.

If you are making regular gifts to the Washington County Historical Society or would like to start, you may find it beneficial to set up or give:

1. A **charitable lead trust** that will pay income to WCHS for a set period.
2. A **charitable remainder trust** that will allow you to transfer property to a trust set up for WCHS without paying capital gains tax on the sale of the property.
3. **Appreciated securities** at their current value and take an income tax deduction for the year up to 30 percent of adjusted gross income.
4. **Gifts from your retirement account** that could be an integral part of planning for those withdrawals.
5. An **irrevocable life insurance trust** that could own your life insurance, when it no longer serves its purpose, to make a charitable gift that could reduce the estate's tax bill.

There are a number of ways to enhance your retirement plans while still providing for your charitable interests and making gifts you never dreamed possible. Consult with your financial adviser on other ways you can make charitable donations. These planned gifts will provide added tax benefits for you and your heir while helping to support the vital mission of the Washington County Historical Society for years to come.

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